

True Location of Brain Stem Cells Discovered

Posted: July 20, 2008

Created: 20/07/2008 - 11:41

Researchers at UC, Irvine identified the true location of adult stem cells in the brain. Previous studies indicated that in mammals, adult neural stem cells originate in a region of the brain called the subventricular zone. In this study, the team found evidence that stem cells exist only in a region called the ependymal layer, which is adjacent to the subventricular zone. They also coaxed the ependymal stem cells to divide in adult rats displaying Parkinson's Disease-like symptoms. This work raises the possibility that manipulating cells of the ependymal cell layer could lead to stem cell therapies for neurological diseases.

Neuroscience: July 11, 2008

CIRM funding: Darius Gleason (T1-00008)

Related Information: UC, Irvine press release, Sue and Bill Gross Stem Cell Research Center

Tags: Neurobiology, Training, Gleason, University of California Irvine

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